

Focus on Fifth

Weekly News for Holmes Fifth-Grade Families

News and Events in the 5th Grade

October 28, 2013

www.op97.org

Important Dates

Bowling Outing	October 31
Science Research Paper Due	November 7
Outdoor Ed	November 15-16

Dear Families,

Outdoor Education

Permission slips are due this Friday. Also, every student attending must have a health form on file. If you haven't yet turned in your child's form, please do so ASAP. We need an accurate count to give to the Lorado Taft staff, so please let your child's homeroom teacher know if your child is or is not attending this field trip. If you are interested in serving as a chaperone, you will need to schedule fingerprinting at the District 97 offices as soon as possible. Please let us know if you are interested.

Bowling Field Trip

Our bowling field trip is this Thursday. We will leave Holmes at 11:15 and return at about 2:00. Students should bring a sack lunch on Thursday as we will be eating at the bowling alley. Please do not send money with your child. We do not allow them to use the vending machines at the alley.

Typing Practice

Students can log on to Custom Typing from home to begin practicing keyboarding skills. The Custom Typing program is accessible from the District's website, and students should begin practicing keyboarding skills at home. The link is: <http://www.op97.org/technology/Custom-Typing.cfm>

SPECIAL AREA SUBJECTS

Art - [www.http://owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com](http://owholmesartgallery.blogspot.com) 5th grade artists are looking at the artwork Keith Haring, paying attention to how he uses lines. Our project is called "The Longest Line." On a 12"x18" piece of paper we put a dot in the corner and carefully began drawing one continuous line. The line may never be more than 1/2" an inch away from another line and may never cross over itself. It would then make a shape, no shapes! It may change styles as many times as they like and finally it must end back at the dot where we started. Lastly, we trace our hands (left and right) over our lines. This made our hands fill up with shapes. We colored these shapes with markers. Sound confusing? Take a look!

Music - This past week, we started music reading "boot camp". It is one of the only times students may have written homework. I will give opportunities during recess for students get help from me if they cannot complete the assignment on their own at home. We may also be doing recorder this week so if your student has not brought it yet, please read the following: **Recorders are \$6 cash.**

check (to district 97) or can be bought through the Holmes school store. They will lose points off of their effort grade if they do not have a recorder.

Chorus - Chorus had their first impromptu performance at the PTO meeting on Wednesday!

Our next performance will be Saturday, November 23rd at the Oak Park Arms. The permission slip was sent home this week. **If you do not receive it, please email me at akaria@op97.org.** We will be singing at the end of the year at a Chicago Sky (women's basketball) game at half time. The date is TBD because the season dates will not be decided on till January. I will need some parental help with this performance. If you are interested in being a chorus parent please email me at akaria@op97.org.

Spanish - We will be wrapping up assessments this week and beginning a new story in class.

Students can still read their stories at home for an extra 10 puntos!

<http://www.mpoleski.blogspot.com/> .

Library - This past week we did research in the library related to the science research project due in November. If your student needs more source cards, they are welcome to get more from the library in the reference section. For a look at the source cards, go here: <http://www.op97.org/library/Tools.cfm> Fill in each line according to what it asks for (for example, "contributor" is a book or article's author). The library home page is <http://www.op97.org/holmes/mediacenter/> . As always, feel free to email me with questions mmaneck@op97.org .

Physical Education - Please see Mr. Williams' link (www.d97mrwilliams.blogspot.com) for information.

Resource

Ms. Rose has created a new blog for the families of her Resource students. For more information on her activities, please visit: [Ms. Rose- Resource Support](#)

Reading/Literature

Last week, students explored ways the author of *Bud, Not Buddy* played with language. We talked about figurative language like idioms, metaphors, and similes. This week we will "show what we know" to identify similes and metaphors as well as explain what they really mean.

Also, we will continue reading *Bud, Not Buddy* while trying to understand what is said between the lines. Students will be trying to understand what they can infer from their reading. What does the author mean from the things that are not being said directly? We'll start the week reading chapter 12.

Writing

Students will use some of their writing time to work on the Science research paper rough draft. The focus this week will be on the Ideas trait -- writing with interesting, important and informative details. In addition, students will log on to Custom Typing to begin practicing keyboarding skills. The Custom Typing program is accessible from the District's website, and students should begin practicing keyboarding skills at home.

Math

Students finished the Unit 1 assessment late last week and we went over the majority of the test questions together in class on Friday. Today, we began Unit 2. In this unit, we will cover addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of decimals, as well as rounding. This week, our focus is on decimal place value. We use our understanding of the base 10 system to multiply by powers of 10. We will also review exponential notation. There will be a short quiz on Friday.

Science

This week, David Hines from our Science Alliance team will visit to share information on the skeletal system. Students will have an opportunity in class this week to work on their research paper. The final

research paper will be due November 7. Students also are reading about the importance of reducing our carbon footprint. They will read pages 60-62 in their orange workbooks and complete a survey on page 64 analyzing our school's environmental practices.

Social Studies

Students will be learning about the Native Americans that lived in four different geographic regions of the United States. We will be examining how the natural environment affected their culture and working on the skill of identifying main ideas and supporting details.

Students may still explore Project Arch-ae-o at home or at the library. There are a number of fun, interactive lessons that the students could do to earn extra Guilders. They simply need to follow the link in the Social Studies section of the 5th grade Wiki. Then, they can make a personal account using their first name and last initial. Project Arch-ae-o teaches students all about archaeology and the Mound Builders civilization.

Please check the Wiki to see when it is your student's week to be a reporter for our Current events project and present a current event he/she finds important and relevant. All the materials are available on our Wiki (<http://5k-socialstudies.wikispaces.com/home>).

Spelling/Word Study

Students will have words assigned this week. They will be assessed on their words on Friday.

Visit the **Holmes Digital Backpack** - <http://www.op97.org/holmes/digitalbackpack/>

We're on the Web!

Visit us at: <http://holmes5thgrade.wikispaces.com/>

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